Belli Disputes Tonahill Thesis In Oswald Death

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SAN FRANCISCO, March 19 (UPI)—Attorney Melvin Belli said yesterday that Lee Harvey Oswald "died of gunshot wounds" and not embolism.

Earlier in Las Vegas, Nev., Jack Tonahill, who shared Jack Ruby's defense with Belli, said Oswald undoubtedly died from air embolism while receiving a blood transfusion at a hospital.

"There's no better lawyer, nor personal friend than Joe Tonahill," Belli said, "but on this one, I think he's wrong."

Tonahill said Dr. Howard Wilson, pathologist at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Beaumont, Tex., gave the finding. Dallas County Medical Examiner Dr. Earl Rose, who performed the autopsy, maintained that the gunshot wounds caused Oswald's death.